

Eyes on the Sky

Public Lecture Series, February 10–May 12, 2005



Last Lecture of the Spring 2005 Series - *Please note special date*

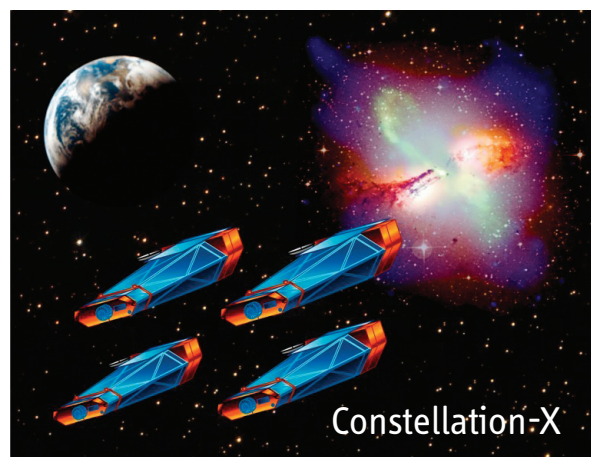
7 pm, Thursday, **May 12, 2005**

NASA Goddard Visitor Center Auditorium

Exploring Beyond Einstein: NASA's Search for Answers

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Goddard Space Flight Center and
Universities Space Research Association



Abstract

Einstein changed the way we think about the universe, but he left us with questions. After a century of discoveries we have refined them to be: What powered the big bang? What happens at the edge of a black hole? What is dark energy? This talk will trace some of the discoveries leading to these questions, and discuss NASA's plans to begin to answer them. The Laser Interferometer Space Array (LISA) will open our eyes to gravitational waves, and Constellation-X will investigate the properties of dark energy and the regions around black holes. These missions will lead to future "vision" missions to detect gravitational waves from the big bang and to directly image a black hole.

Short Biographical Sketches

Jim Lochner's interest in astronomy began in the 2nd grade when his dad took him out on a clear night in upstate New York with a 1" telescope and showed him the rings of Saturn and the Orion Nebula. After a rousing presentation on Cygnus X-1 to his 9th grade Earth Science class, he was encouraged to go into teaching. But his love of astronomy prevailed, and he studied Cygnus X-1 (as it so happened) for his PhD at NASA/GSFC. However, he never lost his love for helping others understand the wonders of the universe. So his early mentors have been vindicated, as Jim now works full time helping teachers bring our fascinating universe into their classrooms.

**Shuttle Bus Service from College Park Metro Station will be available. Please check Web site for details.
To request a sign language interpreter please contact us by email at LRana@pop600.gsfc.nasa.gov**

**Admission is free. Please RSVP online to reserve a spot.
<http://university.gsfc.nasa.gov/eyesonthesky/>
For questions contact us by phone at 301-286-2893/ 9690.**



*"Eyes On the Sky" is a public lecture series featuring some of the world's leading scientists
and NASA's cutting-edge scientific endeavors to answer some of the most profound questions about our universe.*